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and
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Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 3/17/59

Week Ending 3/16/59

WEATHER Light showers or snow flurries fell over much of the State early in the week, and a severe snowstorm swept over the State Saturday and Saturday evening. The storm began as rain in the east, which changed to wet snow, then dry snow which was drifted badly by the strong winds. Warm weather prevailed until Saturday, when cold air overspread the State. The week was rather windy.

CROPS Heavy wet snow again last week brought further relief to the drier sections of the central and northern parts of the State. Surface soil was saturated in some eastern localities as a result of repeated snowfall in recent weeks. Surface soil over a large part of the State is in good shape for spring planting, and for starting spring growth of pastures, ranges and meadows. A few local exceptions exist, but the general situation is much improved over a month ago.

Farmers in the southern counties were about ready to prepare seed beds or plant oats, but now face a further delay until snow melts and fields dry. Earlier in the week some corn stalk cutting and disking took place along the southern tier of counties and some fertilizer was spread in other areas. On the whole, however, field activity was barely starting. Usually around one-fourth of the oats acreage is planted by April 1, although in the last two seasons, wet weather held oats planting to less than 5 percent of the acreage by the end of March. With dry, warm weather in the next two weeks, spring seeding might be about on schedule.

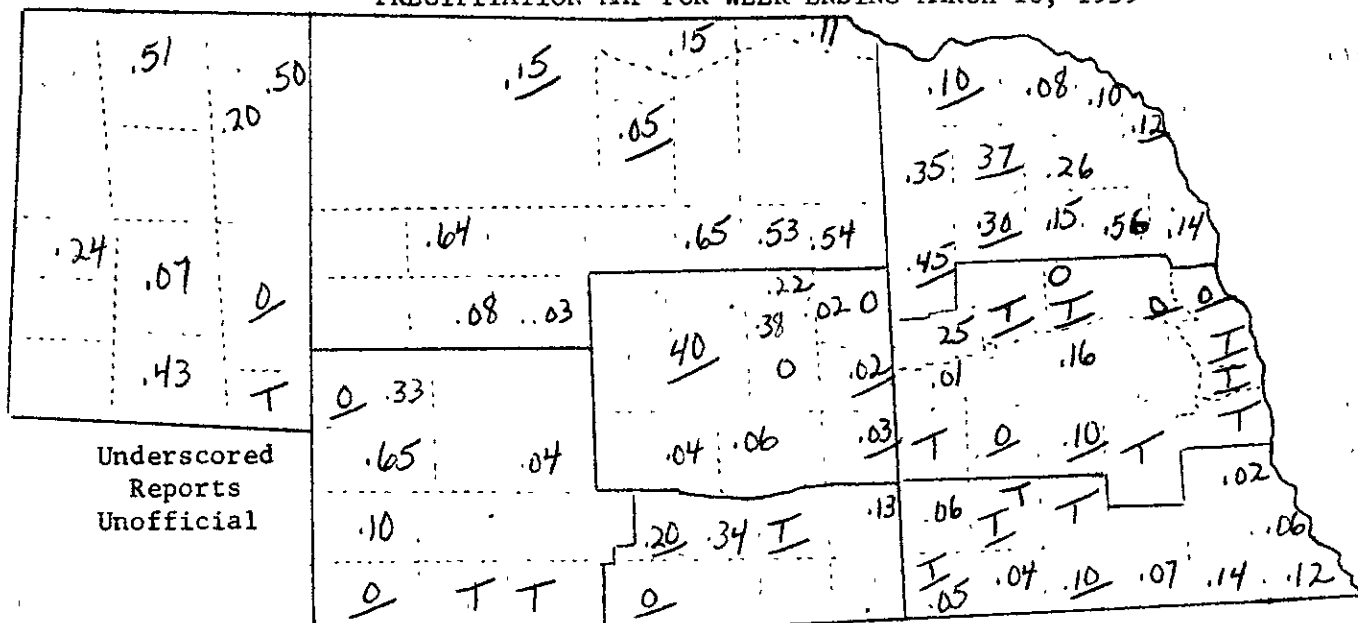
Winter grain fields are slowly greening up in the southern counties, and pastures were showing a faint sign of spring growth also. It was too early to fully appraise winter wheat losses in the central area and in eastern Platte River counties where the crop took a beating during the winter months. However, prospects are bright in the southwest, the southern Panhandle, and in most southeastern counties. All are important wheat producing sections.

LIVESTOCK New crop pigs are arriving in increasing numbers although litter sizes have been disappointing in some instances and disease and sickness more prevalent than usual. Some calf losses were experienced during the recent storm. Eastern feed lots are muddy, but cattle continue to gain well. Milk and egg production rates are good in spite of the cold, stormy weather.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 16, 1959

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	.13	Burwell	.55	Chadron	.51
Lincoln	.51	North Platte	.16	Imperial	.10
Norfolk	.40	Valentine	.33	Scottsbluff	.24
Omaha	.41			Sidney	.70
Sioux City	.36				

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 16, 1959



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		March		11th		12th		13th		14th		15th		16th	
		10th													
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	49	19	40	22	46	20	56	30	43	29	32	16	31	19
	Scottsbluff	47	26	39	20	40	18	54	29	46	28	33	7	33	18
	Sidney	45	25	43	18	38	20	58	32	55	29	39	10	29	6
NC	Burwell	44	24	42	28	45	22	59	30	54	33	--	--	33	14
	Valentine	41	19	45	27	44	18	59	30	46	32	33	4	32	8
NE	Norfolk	40	18	39	23	41	23	50	29	52	34	--	--	37	21
	Sioux City	39	30	37	27	43	26	42	33	53	38	41	26	37	22
Cen	Grand Island	50	25	41	25	45	22	56	31	58	34	41	17	39	22
EC	Lincoln	50	31	38	34	45	29	54	39	60	39	44	21	36	23
	Omaha	44	29	34	29	43	19	47	33	55	38	40	23	33	15
SW	Imperial	50	21	41	25	43	19	61	31	59	33	44	15	34	16
	North Platte	51	22	38	22	45	18	60	26	54	36	43	11	35	16

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